

*Direct observation* consists of counting the members of a population of one.



*Indirect observation* involves counting clues, nests, or other signals rather than the organisms themselves.



An *estimate* is an approximation of a number, based on reasonable assumptions.



*Mark and recapture* involves catching an animal, marking it in some way, then releasing it again. Then another group is captured. the ecologist count of animals tagged in this group.



The *birth rate* of a population is the number of births in a population a certain amount of time.



The *death rate* is the number of deaths in a population of a given amount of time.



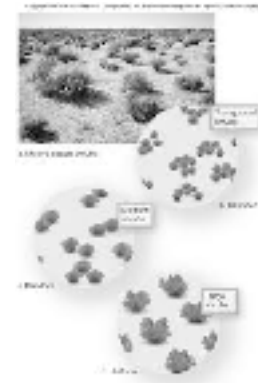
*Immigration* means moving into a population.



Emigration means of migration leaving a population.



*Population density* is the number of organisms in a specific area.



Limiting factors are environmental factors that prevent a population increasing.



The largest population that the environment can support is called the *carrying capacity*.

